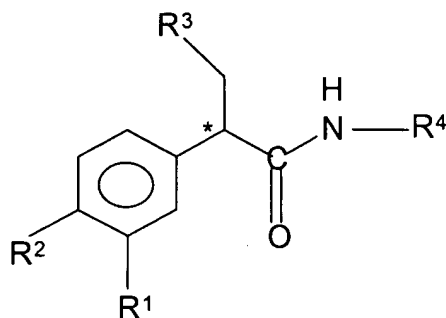


In the Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A compound comprising an amide of the formula:



I

wherein, the * indicates an asymmetric carbon atom,

R¹ and R² are independently hydrogen, halo, amino, hydroxyamino, cyano, nitro, lower alkyl, -OR⁵, -C(O)OR⁶, perfluoro-lower alkyl, lower alkyl thio, perfluoro-lower alkyl thio, lower alkyl sulfonyl, lower alkoxy lower alkyl sulfonyl, perfluoro-lower alkyl sulfonyl, lower alkyl sulfinyl, or sulfonamido; R³ is cycloalkyl having from 3 to 7 carbon atoms or lower alkyl having from 2 to 4 carbon atoms;

R⁴ is an unsubstituted or mono-substituted ~~five or six membered heteroaromatic ring~~ thiazole or thiadiazole connected by a ring carbon atom to the amide group shown, ~~which five or six membered heteroaromatic ring contains from 1 to 3 heteroatoms selected from sulfur, oxygen or nitrogen,~~ with one heteroatom being nitrogen which is adjacent to the connecting ring carbon atom; said mono-substituted ~~heteroaromatic ring~~ thiazole or thiadiazole being monosubstituted at a position on a ring carbon atom other than adjacent to said connecting carbon atom with a substituent selected from the group consisting of lower alkyl, halo, nitro, cyano, perfluoro-lower alkyl, oxo, -(CH₂)_n-OR⁷, -(CH₂)_n-C(O)-OR⁷, -(CH₂)_n-C(O)-NH-R⁷, -C(O)C(O)-OR⁷, or -(CH₂)_n-NHR⁷;

n is 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4;

R⁵ is hydrogen, lower alkyl, or perfluoro-lower alkyl; R⁶ is lower alkyl; and R⁷ is hydrogen or lower alkyl;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

2. (Original) The compound of claim 1, wherein the amide is the R configuration at the asymmetric carbon shown.

3. (Original) The compound of claim 1, wherein R³ is cycloalkyl having from 3 to 7 carbon atoms.

4. (Original) The compound of claim 3, wherein R³ is cyclopentyl.

5. (Original) The compound of claim 4, wherein R⁴ is unsubstituted thiazole.

6. (Original) The compound of claim 5, wherein one of R¹ and R² is hydrogen, halo, perfluoro-lower alkyl and the other of said R¹ and R² is halo, nitro or perfluoro-lower alkyl.

7. (Original) The compound of claim 6, wherein said amide is 2-(3-chloro-phenyl)-3-cyclopentyl-N-thiazol-2-yl-propionamide.

8. (Original) The compound of claim 6, wherein said amide is 2-(4-bromo-phenyl)-3-cyclopentyl-N-thiazol-2-yl-propionamide.

9. (Original) The compound of claim 6, wherein said amide is 2-(4-chloro-phenyl)-3-cyclopentyl-N-thiazol-2-yl-propionamide.

10. (Original) The compound of claim 6, wherein said amide is 3-cyclopentyl-2-(3,4-dichlorophenyl)-N-thiazol-2-yl-propionamide.

11. (Original) The compound of claim 6, wherein said amide is 3-cyclopentyl-N-thiazol-2-yl-2-(4-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-propionamide.

12. (Original) The compound of claim 6, wherein said amide is 3-cyclopentyl-2-(3-fluoro-4-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-N-thiazol-2-yl-propionamide.

13. (Original) The compound of claim 6, wherein said amide is 3-cyclopentyl-2-(4-fluoro-3-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-N-thiazol-2-yl-propionamide.
14. (Original) The compound of claim 6, wherein said amide is 3-cyclopentyl-N-thiazol-2-yl-2-(3-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-propionamide.
15. (Original) The compound of claim 6, wherein said amide is 3-cyclopentyl-2(R)-(3,4-dichloro-phenyl)-N-thiazol-2-yl-propionamide.
16. (Original) The compound of claim 5, wherein one of R¹ and R² is amino, nitro, halo or hydrogen and the other of said R¹ and R² is amino, cyano or nitro.
17. (Original) The compound of claim 16, wherein said amide is 3-cyclopentyl-2-(4-nitrophenyl)-N-thiazol-2-yl-propionamide.
18. (Original) The compound of claim 16, wherein said amide is 2-(4-amino-phenyl)-3-cyclopentyl-N-thiazol-2-yl-propionamide.
19. (Original) The compound of claim 16, wherein said amide is 2-(3-amino-phenyl)-3-cyclopentyl-N-thiazol-2-yl-propionamide.
20. (Original) The compound of claim 16, wherein said amide is 2-(4-chloro-3-nitro-phenyl)-3-cyclopentyl-N-thiazol-2-yl-propionamide.
21. (Original) The compound of claim 16, wherein said amide is 2-(4-cyano-phenyl)-3-cyclopentyl-N-thiazol-2-yl-propionamide.
22. (Original) The compound of claim 16, wherein said amide is 3-cyclopentyl-2-(3-nitrophenyl)-N-thiazol-2-yl-propionamide.

23. (Original) The compound of claim 5, wherein one of R^1 and R^2 is lower alkylthio, perfluoro-lower alkyl thio, halo or hydrogen and the other is perfluoro-lower alkylthio, lower alkylsulfinyl or lower alkylthio.

24. (Original) The compound of claim 23, wherein said amide is 3-cyclopentyl-N-thiazol-2-yl-2-(4-trifluoromethylsulfonyl-phenyl)-propionamide.

25. (Original) The compound of claim 23, wherein said amide is 3-cyclopentyl-2-(4-methylsulfonyl-phenyl)-N-thiazol-2-yl-propionamide.

26. (Original) The compound of claim 23, wherein said amide is 3-cyclopentyl-2-(4-methylsulfonyl-3-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-N-thiazol-2-yl-propionamide.

27. (Original) The compound of claim 23, wherein said amide is 3-cyclopentyl-2-(4-methanesulfonyl-phenyl)-N-thiazol-2-yl-propionamide.

28. (Original) The compound of claim 5, wherein one of R^1 and R^2 is lower alkyl sulfonyl, hydrogen, nitro, amino, cyano, hydroxylamino, sulfonamido or halo, and the other of said R^1 and R^2 is lower alkyl sulfonyl.

29. (Original) The compound of claim 28, wherein said amide is 3-cyclopentyl-2-(4-methanesulfonyl-phenyl)-N-thiazol-2-yl-propionamide.

30. (Original) The compound of claim 28, wherein said amide is 3-cyclopentyl-2-(4-methanesulfonyl-3-nitrophenyl)-N-thiazol-2-yl-propionamide.

31. (Original) The compound of claim 28, wherein said amide is 2-(3-amino-4-methanesulfonyl-phenyl)-3-cyclopentyl-N-thiazol-2-yl-propionamide.

32. (Original) The compound of claim 28, wherein said amide is 3-cyclopentyl-2-(3-hydroxyamino-4-methanesulfonyl-phenyl)-N-thiazol-2-yl-propionamide.

33. (Original) The compound of claim 28, wherein said amide is 2-(3-cyano-4-methanesulfonyl-phenyl)-3-cyclopentyl-N-thiazol-2-yl-propionamide.

34. (Original) The compound of claim 28, wherein said amide is 3-cyclopentyl-2-(4-ethanesulfonyl-phenyl)-N-thiazol-2-yl-propionamide.

35. (Original) The compound of claim 28, wherein said amide is 2-(3,4-bis-methanesulfonyl-phenyl)-3-cyclopentyl-N-thiazol-2-yl-propionamide.

36. (Original) The compound of claim 28, wherein said amide is 3-cyclopentyl-2-(4-sulfamoyl-phenyl)-N-thiazol-2-yl-propionamide.

37. (Original) The compound of claim 28, wherein said amide is 2-[4-(butane-1-sulfonyl)-phenyl]-3-cyclopentyl-N-thiazol-2-yl-propionamide.

38. (Original) The compound of claim 28, wherein said amide is 3-cyclopentyl-2-[4-(propane-1-sulfonyl)-phenyl]-N-thiazol-2-yl-propionamide.

39. (Original) The compound of claim 28, wherein said amide is (2R)-3-cyclopentyl-2-(4-methanesulfonylphenyl)-N-thiazol-2-yl-propionamide.

40. (Original) The compound of claim 5, wherein one of R¹ and R² is lower alkyl sulfonyl, and the other is halo or perfluoro-lower alkyl.

41. (Original) The compound of claim 40, wherein said amide is 3-cyclopentyl-2-(3-fluoro-4-methanesulfonyl-phenyl)-N-thiazol-2-yl-propionamide.

42. (Original) The compound of claim 40, wherein said amide is 3-cyclopentyl-2(R)-(4-methanesulfonyl-3-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-N-thiazol-2-yl-propionamide

43. (Original) The compound of claim 40, wherein said amide is 3-cyclopentyl-2-(4-methanesulfonyl-3-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-N-thiazol-2-yl-propionamide.

44. (Original) The compound of claim 40, wherein said amide is 2(R)-(3-chloro-4-methanesulfonyl-phenyl)-3-cyclopentyl-N-thiazol-2-yl-propionamide.

45. (Original) The compound of claim 40, wherein said amide is 2-[3-chloro-4-methanesulfonyl-phenyl]-3-cyclopentyl-N-thiazol-2-yl-propionamide.

46. (Original) The compound of claim 40, wherein said amide is 2-(3-bromo-4-methanesulfonyl-phenyl)-3-cyclopentyl-N-thiazol-2-yl-propionamide.

47. (Original) The compound of claim 5, wherein one of R¹ and R² is perfluoro-lower alkyl sulfonyl or hydrogen and the other is perfluoro-lower alkyl sulfonyl.

48. (Original) The compound of claim 47, wherein said amide is 3-cyclopentyl-N-thiazol-2-yl-2-(4-trifluoromethanesulfonyl-phenyl)-propionamide.

49. (Original) The compound of claim 47, wherein said amide is 3-cyclopentyl-N-thiazol-2-yl-2-(3-trifluoromethanesulfonyl-phenyl)-propionamide.

50. (Original) The compound of claim 5, wherein one of R¹ and R² is -OR⁵, or -C(O)-OR⁶ and the other of said R¹ and R² is hydrogen or -OR⁵; and R⁵ and R⁶ are as above.

51. (Original) The compound of claim 50, wherein said amide is 3-cyclopentyl-N-thiazol-2-yl-2-(4-trifluoromethoxy-phenyl)-propionamide.

52. (Original) The compound of claim 50, wherein said amide is 3-cyclopentyl-2-(3-methoxy-phenyl)-N-thiazol-2-yl-propionamide.

53. (Original) The compound of claim 50, wherein said amide is 3-cyclopentyl-2-(3-hydroxy-phenyl)-N-thiazol-2-yl-propionamide.

54. (Original) The compound of claim 50, wherein said amide is 3-cyclopentyl-2-(3,4-dimethoxy-phenyl)-N-thiazol-2-yl-propionamide.

55. (Original) The compound of claim 50, wherein said amide is 3-cyclopentyl-2-(3,4-dihydroxy-phenyl)-N-thiazol-2-yl-propionamide.

56. (Original) The compound of claim 50, wherein said amide is 3-cyclopentyl-2-(4-methoxy-phenyl)-N-thiazol-2-yl-propionamide.

57. (Original) The compound of claim 50, wherein said amide is 3-cyclopentyl-2-(4-hydroxy-phenyl)-N-thiazol-2-yl-propionamide.

58. (Original) The compound of claim 50, wherein said amide is 4-[2-cyclopentyl-1-(thiazol-2-ylcarbamoyl)-ethyl]-benzoic acid methyl ester.

59. (Original) The compound of claim 5, wherein one of R^1 and R^2 is $-OR^5$ and the other is halo.

60. (Original) The compound of claim 59, wherein said amide is 3-cyclopentyl-2-(3-fluoro-4-methoxy-phenyl)-N-thiazol-2-yl-propionamide.

61. (Original) The compound of claim 59, wherein said amide is 3-cyclopentyl-2-(3-fluoro-4-hydroxy-phenyl)-N-thiazol-2-yl-propionamide.

62. (Original) The compound of claim 5, wherein one of R^1 and R^2 is hydrogen and the other is lower alkoxy lower alkyl sulfonyl.

63. (Original) The compound of claim 62, wherein said amide is 3-cyclopentyl-2-(4-methoxymethanesulfonyl-phenyl)-N-thiazol-2-yl-propionamide

64. (Original) The compound of claim 4 wherein R^4 is a mono-substituted thiazole with said substituent.

65. (Original) The compound of claim 64, wherein said substituent is $-(CH_2)_n-OR^7$ and n and R^7 are as above.

66. (Original) The compound of claim 65, wherein one of R^1 and R^2 is halo and the other of said R^1 and R^2 is hydrogen or halo.

67. (Original) The compound of claim 66, wherein said amide is 3-cyclopentyl-2-(3,4-dichlorophenyl)-N-(5-hydroxymethyl-thiazol-2-yl)-propionamide.

68. (Original) The compound of claim 66, wherein said amide is 3-cyclopentyl-2-(3,4-dichlorophenyl)-N-[4-(2-hydroxyethyl)-thiazol-2-yl]-propionamide.

69. (Original) The compound of claim 66, wherein said amide is 2-(4-chloro-phenyl)-3-cyclopentyl-N-(5-hydroxymethyl-thiazol-2-yl)-propionamide.

70. (Original) The compound of claim 66, wherein said amide is 3-cyclopentyl-2-(3,4-dichlorophenyl)-N-(4-hydroxymethyl-thiazol-2-yl)-propionamide.

71. (Original) The compound of claim 65, wherein one of R^1 and R^2 is lower alkyl sulfonyl, and the other of said R^1 and R^2 is lower alkyl sulfonyl or hydrogen.

72. (Original) The compound of claim 71 ,wherein said amide is 3-cyclopentyl-N-(4-hydroxymethyl-thiazol-2-yl)-2-(4-methanesulfonyl-phenyl)-propionamide.

73. (Original) The compound of claim 71 ,wherein said amide is 3-cyclopentyl-N-[4-(2-hydroxyethyl)-thiazol-2-yl]-2-(4-methanesulfonyl-phenyl)-propionamide.

74. (Original) The compound of claim 64, wherein said substituent is lower alkyl.

75. (Original) The compound of claim 74 wherein one of R¹ and R² is hydrogen or halo and the other of said R¹ and R² is halo.

76. (Original) The compound of claim 75, wherein said amide is 3-cyclopentyl-2-(3,4-dichlorophenyl)-N-(4-methyl-thiazol-2-yl)-propionamide.

77. (Original) The compound of claim 75, wherein said amide is 3-cyclopentyl-2-(3,4-dichlorophenyl)-N-(5-methyl-thiazol-2-yl)-propionamide.

78. (Original) The compound of claim 74 wherein one of R¹ and R² is lower alkyl sulfonyl and the other is hydrogen or halo.

79. (Original) The compound of claim 78, wherein said amide is 3-cyclopentyl-2(R)-(4-methanesulfonyl-phenyl)-N-(4-methyl-thiazol-2-yl)-propionamide.

80. (Original) The compound of claim 78, wherein said amide is 3-cyclopentyl-2(R)-(4-methanesulfonyl-phenyl)-N-(5-methyl-thiazol-2-yl)-propionamide.

81. (Original) The compound of claim 78, wherein said amide is 2(R)-(3-chloro-4-methanesulfonyl-phenyl)-3-cyclopentyl-N-(5-methyl-thiazol-2-yl)-propionamide.

82. (Original) The compound of claim 78, wherein said amide is 2(R)-(3-chloro-4-methanesulfonyl-phenyl)-3-cyclopentyl-N-(4-methyl-thiazol-2-yl)-propionamide.

83. (Original) The compound of claim 64, wherein said substituent is $-(CH_2)_n-C(O)-OR^7$ wherein n is 0 or 1 and R^7 is hydrogen, or lower alkyl.

84. (Original) The compound of claim 83, wherein one of R^1 and R^2 is hydrogen and the other is halo.

85. (Original) The compound of claim 84, wherein said amide is {2-[2-(3-chloro-phenyl)-3-cyclopentyl-propionylamino]-thiazol-4-yl}-acetic acid ethyl ester.

86. (Original) The compound of claim 84, wherein said amide is {2-[2-(3-chloro-phenyl)-3-cyclopentyl-propionylamino]-thiazol-4-yl}-acetic acid methyl ester.

87. (Original) The compound of claim 84, wherein said amide is 2-[2-(3-chloro-phenyl)-3-cyclopentyl-propionylamino]-thiazole-4-carboxylic acid methyl ester.

88. (Original) The compound of claim 84, wherein said amide is 2-[2-(3-chloro-phenyl)-3-cyclopentyl-propionylamino]-thiazole-4-carboxylic acid ethyl ester.

89. (Original) The compound of claim 84, wherein said amide is {2-[2-(4-chloro-phenyl)-3-cyclopentyl-propionylamino]-thiazol-4-yl}-acetic acid ethyl ester.

90. (Original) The compound of claim 84, wherein said amide is 2-[2-(4-chloro-phenyl)-3-cyclopentyl-propionylamino]-thiazole-4-carboxylic acid methyl ester.

91. (Original) The compound of claim 84, wherein said amide is 2-[2-(4-chloro-phenyl)-3-cyclopentyl-propionylamino]-thiazole-4-carboxylic acid ethyl ester.

92. (Original) The compound of claim 84, wherein said amide is {2-[2-(4-chloro-phenyl)-3-cyclopentyl-propionylamino]-thiazol-4-yl}-acetic acid methyl ester.

93. (Original) The compound of claim 83, wherein one of R¹ or R² is halo and the other is perfluoro-lower alkyl.

94. (Original) The compound of claim 93 wherein said amide is {2-[3-cyclopentyl-2-(4-fluoro-3-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-propionylamino]-thiazol-4-yl}-acetic acid ethyl ester.

95. (Original) The compound of claim 83, wherein R¹ and R² are each independently halo.

96. (Original) The compound of claim 95, wherein said amide is {2-[3-cyclopentyl-2-(3,4-dichlorophenyl)-propionylamino]-thiazol-4-yl}-acetic acid.

97. (Original) The compound of claim 95, wherein said amide is {2-[3-cyclopentyl-2-(3,4-dichlorophenyl)-propionylamino]-thiazol-4-yl}-acetic acid ethyl ester.

98. (Original) The compound of claim 95, wherein said amide is 2-[3-cyclopentyl-2-(3,4-dichlorophenyl)-propionylamino]-thiazole-5-carboxylic acid.

99. (Original) The compound of claim 95, wherein said amide is 2-[3-cyclopentyl-2-(3,4-dichlorophenyl)-propionylamino]-thiazole-4-carboxylic acid.

100. (Original) The compound of claim 95, wherein said amide is {2-[3-cyclopentyl-2-(3,4-dichlorophenyl)-propionylamino]-thiazol-4-yl}-acetic acid methyl ester.

101. (Original) The compound of claim 95, wherein said amide is (2R)-2-[3-cyclopentyl-2-(3,4-dichloro-phenyl)-propionylamino]-thiazole-4-carboxylic acid methyl ester.

102. (Original) The compound of claim 95, wherein said amide is 2-[3-cyclopentyl-2-(3,4-dichlorophenyl)-propionylamino]-thiazole-5-carboxylic acid methyl ester.

103. (Original) The compound of claim 95, wherein said amide is 2-[3-cyclopentyl-2-(3,4-dichlorophenyl)-propionylamino]-thiazole-5-carboxylic acid ethyl ester.

104. (Original) The compound of claim 95, wherein said amide is 2-[3-cyclopentyl-2-(3,4-dichlorophenyl)-propionylamino]-thiazole-4-carboxylic acid ethyl ester.

105. (Original) The compound of claim 95, wherein said amide is 2-[3-cyclopentyl-2-(3,4-dichlorophenyl)-propionylamino]-thiazole-4-carboxylic acid methyl ester.

106. (Original) The compound of claim 83, wherein one of R¹ or R² is nitro, amino or hydrogen and the other of said R¹ and R² is nitro or amino.

107. (Original) The compound of claim 106, wherein said amide is {2-[3-cyclopentyl-2-(4-nitro-phenyl)-propionylamino]-thiazol-4-yl}-acetic acid ethyl ester.

108. (Original) The compound of claim 106, wherein said amide is {2-[3-cyclopentyl-2-(4-nitro-phenyl)-propionylamino]-thiazol-4-yl}-acetic acid methyl ester.

109. (Original) The compound of claim 106, wherein said amide is 2-[3-cyclopentyl-2-(4-nitro-phenyl)-propionylamino]-thiazole-4-carboxylic acid methyl ester.

110. (Original) The compound of claim 106, wherein said amide is 2-[3-cyclopentyl-2-(4-nitro-phenyl)-propionylamino]-thiazole-4-carboxylic acid ethyl ester.

111. (Original) The compound of claim 106, wherein said amide is {2-[2-(4-amino-phenyl)-3-cyclopentyl-propionylamino]-thiazol-4-yl}-acetic acid methyl ester.

112. (Original) The compound of claim 106, wherein said amide is 2-[2-(4-amino-phenyl)-3-cyclopentyl-propionylamino]-thiazole-4-carboxylic acid methyl ester.

113. (Original) The compound of claim 83, wherein one of R¹ and R² is lower alkyl sulfonyl, perfluoro-lower alkyl, halo or hydrogen and the other of said R¹ and R² is lower alkyl sulfonyl.

114. (Original) The compound of claim 113, wherein said amide is (2-[3-cyclopentyl-2-(4-methanesulfonyl-phenyl)-propionylamino]-thiazole-4-carboxylic acid ethyl ester.

115. (Original) The compound of claim 113, wherein said amide is (2-[3-cyclopentyl-2-(4-methanesulfonyl-phenyl)-propionylamino]-thiazole-4-carboxylic acid methyl ester.

116. (Original) The compound of claim 113, wherein said amide is {2-[3-cyclopentyl-2-(4-methanesulfonyl-phenyl)-propionylamino]-thiazol-4-yl}-acetic acid ethyl ester.

117. (Original) The compound of claim 113, wherein said amide is {2-[3-cyclopentyl-2-(4-methanesulfonyl-phenyl)-propionylamino]-thiazol-4-yl}-4-acetic acid methyl ester.

118. (Original) The compound of claim 113, wherein said amide is {2-[3-cyclopentyl-2-(4-methanesulfonyl-3-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-propionylamino]-thiazol-4-yl}-acetic acid methyl ester.

119. (Original) The compound of claim 113, wherein said amide is 2-[3-cyclopentyl-2-(4-methanesulfonyl-3-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-propionylamino]-thiazole-4-carboxylic acid methyl ester.

120. (Original) The compound of claim 83, wherein one of R¹ and R² is perfluoro-lower alkyl sulfonyl and the other is hydrogen, halo, or perfluoro-lower alkyl.

121. (Original) The compound of claim 120, wherein said amide is 2-[3-cyclopentyl-2-(4-trifluoromethanesulfonyl-phenyl)-propionylamino]-thiazole-4-carboxylic acid methyl ester.

122. (Original) The compound of claim 120, wherein said amide is 2-[3-cyclopentyl-2-(4-trifluoromethanesulfonyl-phenyl)-propionylamino]-thiazole-4-carboxylic acid ethyl ester.

123. (Original) The compound of claim 120, wherein said amide is 2-[3-cyclopentyl-2-(4-trifluoromethanesulfonyl-phenyl)-propionylamino]-thiazole-4-acetic acid methyl ester.

124. (Original) The compound of claim 120, wherein said amide is {2-[3-cyclopentyl-2-(4-trifluoromethanesulfonyl-phenyl)-propionylamino]-thiazole-4-yl}-acetic acid ethyl ester.

125. (Original) The compound of claim 64, wherein said substituent is -C(O)-C(O)-OR⁷ wherein R⁷ is as above.

126. (Original) The compound of claim 125, wherein one of R¹ and R² are hydrogen and the other of said R¹ and R² is nitro or amino.

127. (Original) The compound of claim 126, wherein said amide is {2-[3-cyclopentyl-2-(4-nitro-phenyl)-propionylamino]-thiazol-4-yl}-oxo-acetic acid ethyl ester.

128. (Original) The compound of claim 125, wherein one of R¹ and R² is halo or perfluoro-lower alkyl and the other of said R¹ and R² is perfluoro-lower alkyl, halo or hydrogen.

129. (Original) The compound of claim 128, wherein said amide is {2-[3-cyclopentyl-2-(3,4-dichlorophenyl)-propionylamino]thiazol-5-yl}-oxo-acetic ethyl ester.

130. (Original) The compound of claim 128, wherein said amide is {2-[3-cyclopentyl-2-(4-fluoro-3-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-propionylamino]-thiazol-4-yl}-oxo-acetic acid ethyl ester.

131. (Original) The compound of claim 128, wherein said amide is {2-[3-cyclopentyl 2-(3,4-dichlorophenyl)-propionylamino]-thiazol-4-yl}-oxo-acetic acid ethyl ester.

132. (Original) The compound of claim 128, wherein said amide is (2R)-{2-[3-cyclopentyl-2-(3,4-dichlorophenyl)-propionylamino]-thiazol-5-yl}-oxo-acetic acid ethyl ester.

133. (Original) The compound of claim 128, wherein said amide is (2R)-{2-[3-cyclopentyl-2-(3,4-dichlorophenyl)-propionylamino]-thiazol-4-yl}-oxo-acetic acid ethyl ester.

134. (Original) The compound of claim 125, wherein said one of R¹ and R² is hydrogen or halo and the other of said R¹ and R² is lower alkyl sulfonyl.

135. (Original) The compound of claim 134, wherein said compound is {2-[2-(3-chloro-4-methanesulfonyl-phenyl)-3-cyclopentyl-propionylamino]-thiazol-4-yl}-oxo-acetic acid ethyl ester.

136. (Original) The compound of claim 64, wherein said substituent is nitro.

137. (Original) The compound of claim 136 wherein R¹ and R² are each independently halo.

138. (Original) The compound of claim 136, wherein said amide is 3-cyclopentyl-2-(3,4-dichlorophenyl)-N-(5-nitro-thiazol-2-yl)-propionamide.

139. (Original) The compound of claim 64, wherein said substituent is $-(CH_2)_n-C(O)-NH-R^7$ and n and R^7 are as in claim 1.

140. (Original) The compound of claim 139 wherein one of R^1 and R^2 is halo or lower alkyl sulfonyl and the other is halo or hydrogen.

141. (Original) The compound of claim 140, wherein said amide is 2-[3-cyclopentyl-2-(4-methanesulfonyl-phenyl)-propionylamino]-thiazole-5-carboxylic acid amide.

142. (Original) The compound of claim 140, wherein said amide is 2-[3-cyclopentyl-2-(3,4-dichlorophenyl)-propionylamino]-thiazole-4-carboxylic acid amide.

143. (Original) The compound of claim 64, wherein said substituent is halo.

144. (Original) The compound of claim 143, wherein one of R^1 and R^2 is halo or hydrogen and the other is lower alkyl sulfonyl.

145. (Original) The compound of claim 144, wherein said amide is N-(5-chloro-thiazol-2-yl)-3-cyclopentyl-2-(4-methanesulfonyl-phenyl)-propionamide.

146. (Original) The compound of claim 144, wherein said amide is N-(5-chloro-thiazol-2-yl)-3-cyclopentyl-2(R)-(4-methanesulfonyl-phenyl)-propionamide.

147. (Original) The compound of claim 144, wherein said amide is N-(5-bromo-thiazol-2-yl)-3-cyclopentyl-2-(4-methanesulfonyl-phenyl)-propionamide.

148. (Original) The compound of claim 144, wherein said amide is N-(5-bromo-thiazol-2-yl)-3-cyclopentyl-2(R)-(4-methanesulfonyl-phenyl)-propionamide.

149. (Original) The compound of claim 144, wherein said amide is N-(5-bromothiazol-2-yl)-2(R)-(3-chloro-4-methanesulfonyl-phenyl)-3-cyclopentyl-propionamide.

150-266 (Cancelled).

267. (Original) The compound of claim 4 wherein R^4 is an unsubstituted thiadiazolyl ring.

268. (Original) The compound of claim 267, wherein one of R^1 or R^2 is halo, nitro or perfluoro-lower alkyl or lower alkyl sulfonyl and the other of said R^1 and R^2 is hydrogen or halo.

269. (Original) The compound of claim 268, wherein said amide is 3-cyclopentyl-2-(3,4-dichlorophenyl)-N-[1,3,4]thiadiazol-2-yl-propionamide.

270. (Original) The compound of claim 1, wherein R^3 is cyclohexyl.

271. (Original) The compound of claim 270, wherein R^4 is unsubstituted thiazolyl.

272. (Original) The compound of claim 271, wherein one of R^1 and R^2 is halo, lower alkyl sulfonyl, perfluoro-lower alkyl sulfonyl, perfluoro-lower alkyl, and the other of said R^1 and R^2 is halo, perfluoro-lower alkyl or hydrogen.

273. (Original) The compound of claim 272, wherein said amide is 3-cyclohexyl-2-[4-methanesulfonyl-phenyl]-N-thiazol-2-yl-propionamide.

274. (Original) The compound of claim 272, wherein said amide is 3-cyclohexyl-2-[4-methanesulfonyl-3-trifluoromethyl-phenyl]-N-thiazol-2-yl-propionamide.

275. (Original) The compound of claim 1, wherein R^3 is cycloheptyl.

276. (Original) The compound of claim 275, wherein R⁴ is unsubstituted thiazolyl.
277. (Original) The compound of claim 276, wherein one of R¹ and R² is halo, lower alkyl sulfonyl, perfluoro-lower alkyl sulfonyl, perfluoro-lower alkyl, and the other of said R¹ and R² is halo, perfluoro-lower alkyl or hydrogen.
278. (Original) The compound of claim 277, wherein said amide is 3-cycloheptyl-2-(4-methanesulfonyl-phenyl)-N-thiazol-2-yl-propionamide.